Short supply of coal to Gujarat

2337. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PA-TIL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of coal and coke to the Gujarat State is irregular;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at *present Gujarat* is being supplied merely 6 per cent against its annual requirement; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to mitigate the problem of poor and adulterated quality of coal supplied with reduced weight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (a) and (b) Requirements of coal are not being assessed State-wise. They are being assessed Sector-wise. Available information indicating the total quantities of coal supplied to Gujarat for the year 1991-92 and for the period April—December, 1992 as compared to the same period last year is given below:

(Fig. in '000 tonnes)

Year	Total	Growth (%)
1991-92	15181	3.59
1992-93 (April-December)	11094	4.46
1991-92 (April-December)	10620	

The above data indicates steady growth of coal despatches to Gujarat.

(c) Coal companies have already prepared an action plan 'for improve ing quality of despatches of non-coking coal. This action plan broadly aims at:

(i) Restoration and re-activation of idle CHP capacity by providing balancing facilities;

(ii) Expeditious completion of CHPs where construction work was left incomplete due to various reasons;

(iii) Undertaking a crash prog ramme for installation of feeder breakers at locations where ROM coal is loaded: and

(iv) Construction of new CHPs at projects under implementation to take care of additional production capacity in the pipeline.

As regard shortages in weight, coal is despatched on FOR basis. Coal CbmBlanies are not responsiblje for shortage enroute. However they are strengthening their organisation for ensuring 100 per cent weighment of coal despatched to consumers. Coal Consumers can also post their repre sentatives to supervise loading of coal.

Starting underground .. mining for Setting good quality of coal

2338. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISH-RA Will the Miniser of COAL be peased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resort to need-oriented coal pro-